



PRESS RELEASE

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Defense Department Award to Lakehurst Employee

New Packaging System for Aircraft Carriers

Monday, August 1, 2005, Lakehurst, NJ - - Frank Magnifico, the Packaging and Laboratory Manager for Naval Air Systems Command (NAVIAR) Lakehurst, along with Robert Day, a logistics specialist from Naval Inventory Control Point (NAVICP) Philadelphia were recently presented with the Defense Packaging Excellence Award at a ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

They were credited with introducing an innovative packaging system designed to provide high quality, reliable cushioning on board aircraft carriers, while at the same time decreasing costs and saving valuable storage space.

Despite the size of aircraft carriers, storage space is always at a premium; and pre-inflated cushioned packaging material, necessary for protecting valuable resources, uses an inordinate amount of space onboard ship.

In an effort to find a cost effective solution to this problem, Magnifico and Day introduced a commercial product – Sealed Air's Inflatable Bubble Wrap (IBW) Packaging System that produces Bubble Wrap cushioning on demand. This newly introduced material was evaluated to insure it would meet the Navy's performance standards, while at the same time provide substantial space and transportation savings.

After a seven-month deployment on the USS Enterprise, the packaging system yielded great results and has since been installed on numerous other Navy carriers, ships and shore sites. The new system saves over 1,000 feet of floor space and saves untold hours of labor storing, rolling and retrieving the old pre-inflated bubble-type cushioning. The overall savings to the Navy based upon waste disposal, man-hour cost avoidance, shipping costs and storage is calculated at \$625,000 per year.

For their innovative efforts, Magnifico and Day were honored by the Department of Defense and the National Institute of Packaging, Handling and Logistics Engineering by being named the recipient of this prestigious annual award.

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"NAVAIR provides cost-wise readiness and dominant maritime combat power to make a great Navy/Marine Corps team better."